

**DETAILED ACTION**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Samuel G. Campbell III on 07-31-2009.

Claims are amended as written in Appendix A (see attachment).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 13-19, and 27-39 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner statement of reason of allowance: With respect to independent claims 13, 17, and 27, the prior art of record, individually or in combination failed to teach automatically assigning an index number to an interface of a circuit switch, wherein the circuit switch is configured to be communicatively coupled to a router, wherein the index is automatically transmitted using the same interface and at least another interface using packet routing protocol, and the circuit switch comprises a table which comprises an entry indicating the index, an entry indicating link functionality and another entry indicating predetermined number of contiguous frames that may be transmitted over the link in combination with other limitations.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MOUNIR MOUTAOUAKIL whose telephone number is

(571)270-1416. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (1pm-4:30pm) eastern time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. M./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2419  
/Ayaz R. Sheikh/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2419